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Maine Writers Correspondence

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October 2015

Mildred E. Danforth Correspondence

Mildred E. Danforth

Shirley Thayer 1919-2001

Maine State Library

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December 16, 1971

Miss Mildred E. Danforth
Poplars Mobile Home Park #3
Route 1
Wells, Maine 04090

Dear Miss Danforth:

We were glad to hear from you and certainly appreciate your offer to send copies of your two books for our Maine Author Collection. We have your book, A QUAKER PIONEER in our circulating collection but our Maine Author Collection is a permanent collection and the books are not circulated. We would be happy to add your books to the others by Maine writers.

As we try to have brief biographical information about all our Maine authors, we would appreciate knowing your place and date of birth, how long you have lived in Maine, and anything further of interest about the writing of your two books or about yourself.

Sincerely

(Miss) Shirley Thayer
Head of Reference Services

St: bae

Poplars Mobile Home Park, #3
Route 1, Wells, Maine 04090
December 3, 1971

Miss Thayer
Maine Authors Department
State Library
Augusta, Maine

Dear Miss Thayer:

I have just seen the broadcast regarding the new Maine room at the State Library. I thought I would write to see if you would care to have copies of my two books: A Quaker Pioneer; Laura Haviland, Superintendent of the Underground, and From Outer Space. The latter was published in London, as I could not find a publisher for it in America. It is a paperback. I have only one good copy of each book left, so unless you really want these books, I will not send them.

For your information I will add that I am a member of the Maine Press Radio-TV Women and of the Poetry Fellowship of Maine.

Sincerely yours,

(Miss) Mildred E. Danforth

January 5, 1972

Miss Mildred Danforth
Poplars Mobile Home Park #3
Route 1
Wells, Maine 04090

Dear Miss Danforth:

We certainly appreciate the gift of your inscribed copies of your two books, A QUAKER PIONEER, and FROM OUTER SPACE for our Maine Author Collection. We have placed them in the Maine Room where they will be available to anyone who wishes to use them in this library, but as this is a permanent collection, they will not be available for loan.

We thank you for your books and the biographical information as we need to have some facts about each author also.

Sincerely,

(Miss) Shirley Thayer
Head of Reference Services

ST:bae

Poplars Mobile Home Park, #3
Route 1, Wells, Maine 04090
December 18, 1971

Miss Shirley Thayer
Head of Reference Services
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine

Dear Miss Thayer:

I shall be honored to have my books in the Maine Author Collection. They will be mailed as soon as I can get around to it.

As for biographical material: I was born in Lebanon, Maine, March 19, 1900. After district schools in that town I attended high school in Berwick and Sanford, graduating from the latter high school in 1919. I attended the library course given by the City Library of Springfield, Massachusetts, and using my library training, I worked my way through the University of New Hampshire, graduating in 1931, with a B.A. degree in art. During World War II, I served as a WAC at Ft. Oglethorpe, Georgia, and then taking advantage of the G.I. Bill, I obtained my Master's in dramatic art at North Carolina U. Didn't care for library work; I have been forced to use it as a means of earning a living, and have worked in a number of different states. My parents spent many years in Berwick, so I often visited them there. In 1963 I obtained a much more congenial position as instructor at Thomas College, Waterville, Maine, with some library work as well. I taught speech, English and some dramatic art. I wrote and directed seven one-act plays there. I was forced to resign for reasons of health in 1969.

In addition to the two books, I have had two full-length plays produced at the University of North Carolina and at Adelphi College (now Adelphi University). I have had some articles and poems published and I am a member of the Poetry Fellowship of Maine. At present I am writing a weekly column for the Somersworth-Berwicks Free Press, called "Among My Souvenirs." At the University of New Hampshire I was a member of Phi Kappa Phi, and I hold a Carolina Playmakers' Mask Award.

This is pretty sketchy, but you stated that it was to be brief.

Sincerely,

(Miss) Mildred E. Danforth

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*Very glad to hear that
my books have been
added in the Maine
State Library.
I am a member of the
Maine State Library
Association.
Thank you for the
information.*

*Miss Shirley Thayer
Head of Ref. Services
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine
04330*

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Yankee Colour photograph by Stan Trzonic

19893

List of Manuscripts May, 1975
Mildred E. Danforth

Death in Dover - the massacre by the Indians in 1689.

The Indomitable Sullivans - the Sullivan family of Ireland
and Berwick, Maine

The Embattled Farmer - Ralph Farham of Lebanon and Acton
Maine, last survivor of the Battle of
Bunker Hill

Mutual Admiration Society - Jefferson Davis' cordial welcome
to Portland and other cities of Maine in
the summer of 1858.

The First President of Maine - Thomas Danforth of Massachusetts
Ghosts That Refuse to be Laid - Murders on the Isles of Shoals
Castles in Maine - the Victoria Mansion of Portland and its
history

A Worthy Memorial - the Statue of the Rev. Amos Main in
Rochester, N.H. and its history

Two Hannahs - Hannah Dustin and her Great-Granddaughter, Hannah
Weston of Jonesboro, Maine

An American Dream in York County - How strawberry culture was
introduced into Maine

Why Ole Bull is Remembered - The famous violinist and his
cordiality to the people of Lebanon, Maine

Ghosts of Forgotten Pilgrims - the tragic voyage of the
first Pilgrims to come to America previous
to the voyage of the Mayflower.